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Deny Nixon Assertion Of 'Leak' to Kennedy

Cuba Charge Challenged

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The White House Tuesday challenged a statement by former Vice President Richard M. Nixon that President Kennedy was informed during the 1960 campaign that Cuban exiles were being trained by this country for an invasion of their homeland.

Nixon in his new book, "Six Crises," wrote that he felt Mr. Kennedy, then a presidential nominee, endangered the U.S. foreign policy by calling during the campaign for U.S. intervention in Cuba.

NIXON said Mr. Kennedy had been told in secret intelligence briefings of early preparations for a Cuban invasion.

The White House said this is not true and suggested that Nixon's account was "apparently based on a misunderstanding."

Allen W. Dulles, former Central Intelligence Agency director, also said in a statement released through the CIA that Mr. Kennedy was not given any information during the campaign concerning any "overt or covert" action such as the Cuban invasion.

DULLES said there apparently has been "an honest misunderstanding" by Nixon.

cerning the content of the briefing given Mr. Kennedy.

"The President does not believe that intelligence briefings are a proper subject of public debate," press secretary Pierre Salinger said.

"But in the light of the account in Mr. Nixon's book it is necessary to say that the then-Senator Kennedy was not told before the election of 1960

of the training of troops outside of Cuba or of any plans for supporting an invasion of Cuba."

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IN WHITTIER, Calif., Nixon was advised of the President's challenge.

"I have no comment at this time," he said, "until I have a chance to read the statement. There will be a lot of controversy over the book, I imagine."